

28 September 2026

RE: Cooperation on the Development of Universal Acceptance Indicators

Mr. Alexey Borodin
Director General
Regional Commonwealth in the Field of Communications
Executive Committee

Dear Mr. Borodin,

Thank you for your letter dated 3 September 2026 and for referencing our [paper](#) from the ITU World Telecommunication Development Conference 2025. We appreciate the Regional Commonwealth in the Field of Communications' (RCC) interest in collaborating with the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) on indicators to measure Universal Acceptance (UA) adoption.

The ability to use the Internet in different languages and scripts is a global priority, recognized in the WSIS+20 Outcome Document. It is also reflected in ICANN's [Strategic Plan](#) for fiscal year 2026 to 2030, and we welcome all stakeholder participation in these efforts.

In the letter, you propose “initiating a dedicated community-based work process to develop a comprehensive set of indicators for assessing the implementation of UA at the national level. Furthermore, to develop a coherent set of the UA indicators that could subsequently be proposed to the ITU for systematic and regular use in assessing progress in UA across its Member States.”

There are several established channels through which this work can be advanced, including work to develop approaches and indicators for measuring progress on UA implementation. We therefore encourage RCC members, many of whom participate in ICANN's Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), to contribute through these existing ICANN community processes:

ICANN Community based channels:

- **ccNSO UAC:** The Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) Universal Acceptance Committee (UAC) brings together ccTLD managers active in UA initiatives and provides a platform for ccTLDs to collaborate and share insights on UA topics alongside other experts across the ICANN community.
- **GAC UA-IDN WG:** Participation in the GAC Universal Acceptance and Internationalized Domain Names Working Group is open to GAC Members and Observers. The Working Group considers UA topics relevant to governments and provides expertise on UA and IDNs to the GAC.

In addition, the Universal Acceptance Expert Working Group recently [concluded](#) its work and submitted its [Guidelines for Advancing Universal Acceptance Adoption](#) to ICANN org for consideration. The group was formed at my request to help guide ICANN's work in advancing UA adoption, and guidelines 44-47 address indicators. ICANN org is reviewing the guidelines to identify priorities and inform planning for potential future implementation.

International Engagement:

- **WTIS:** As a Sector Member of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector, ICANN participates in the World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium (WTIS). In 2025, ICANN proposed UA indicators as a topic for future work of the ITU-D Expert Group on ICT Household Indicators (EGH). We appreciate RCC's support for the suggestions outlined in our WTDC-25 paper and welcome continued RCC engagement on this topic.
- ICANN and UNESCO also jointly [responded](#) to the Partnership for ICT Development questionnaire on the "Systematic Review on ICT Indicators" highlighting a foundational IDN indicator. We will continue to engage through relevant international processes to explore indicators for assessing progress in UA adoption and IDN implementation.

While UA adoption and the use of specific IDN scripts may vary across regions, globally applicable approaches to measurement can support consistent assessment of progress while benefiting from regional experience and expertise. ICANN will continue to advance this work through its community structures and engagement with organizations such as ITU and UNESCO. We welcome RCC members' participation and contributions through these collaborative efforts.

Respectfully,



Kurt Erik Lindqvist
President and Chief Executive Officer
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)